

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 09811 261904Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 DHA-05 ACDA-07
OMB-01 TRSE-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OIC-02 EB-08
COME-00 MCE-00 /105 W
-----075513 261931Z /41

O 261720Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3326

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 9811

FROM USDEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, US

SUBJECT: LAGOS CONFERENCE: AUGUST 25 PLENARY SESSION

REF: (A) LAGOS 9695, (B) LAGOS 9619, (C) LAGOS 9620

SUMMARY: CONFERENCE PLENARY SPEECHES AUGUST 25 WERE MORE OF THE
SAME -- CONCENTRATING ON WIDESPREAD BUT RELATIVELY RESTRAINED
CRITICISMS OF WESTERN SUPPORT FOR SOUTH AFRICA. ANDY YOUNG'S
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 09811 261904Z

SPEECH (REPORTED SEPTELS) WAS THE HIT OF THE DAY. END SUMMARY.

1. OVER 50 SPEAKERS SHUTTLED TO THE ROSTROM DURING PLENARY SES-
SIONS AUGUST 25. NEARLY ALL NON-WEO SPEAKERS CRITICIZED WESTERN
SUPPORT FOR SOUTH AFRICA, PRINCIPALLY INVESTMENTS, ARMS SALES AND
NUCLEAR COOPERATION. THE MAJORITY OF CRITICISM WAS ANTICIPATED AND
RELATIVELY MODERATE. MOST NON-WEO SPEAKERS URGED THE CONFERENCE

TO CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL ISOLATION OF SOUTH AFRICA, INCLUDING AN ARMS EMBARGO, AND CESSATION OF INVESTMENT, NUCLEAR COOPERATION AND POLITICAL AND MORAL SUPPORT. EVEN MANY MODERATES SPOKE OF NECESSITY FOR ARMED STRUGGLE. ANDY YOUNG'S SPEECH (REPORTED SEPT 1963) WAS CLEARLY THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE DAY. OTHER SIGNIFICANT REMARKS:

2. FRENCH REP (THABAULT) CATEGORICALLY REJECTED CHARGE BY EARLIER SPEAKERS THAT FRENCH HAD ASSISTED SA TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR TO DEVELOP OR SUPPLY A RESEARCH REACTOR. FRANCE HAD NOW FORBIDDEN ALL FURTHER SALES OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS TO SOUTH AFRICA.

3. ALGERIAN REP (BELACEN), IN DELIVERING ONE OF MOST BITTER ANTI-WEST SPEECHES, WARNED DELEGATES THAT PRESENT WESTERN PROTESTATIONS OF FRIENDSHIP CHANGED NOTHING. THEY ONLY REFLECTED A GROWING WORRY IN THE WEST ABOUT THE FUTURE OF HER SOUTH AFRICAN "PROTEGE."
CURRENT WESTERN "APPEASEMENTS AND ASSURANCES" WERE DESIGNED ONLY TO GAIN TIME TO MAKE SOUTH AFRICA STRONGER. LIBYAN REMARKS WERE IN SIMILAR VEIN. ALGERIA, LIBYA AND TUNISIA ALL EQUATED ZIONISM WITH APARTHEID, BUT DID NOT PUSH THE POINT.

4. FRG REP (VON DOHNANYI) SAID FRG HAD OBSERVED A VOLUNTARY ARMS EMBARGO TO SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1963 AND DID NOT PROMOTE INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA. HE STATED THAT THERE WAS NO COOPERATION BETWEEN THE FRG AND SOUTH AFRICA IN THE MILITARY OR NUCLEAR FIELD.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LAGOS 09811 261904Z

5. BRITISH LIBERAL PARTY LEADER (DAVID STEELE) TOLD DELEGATES THAT HIS PARTY HAD LONG URGED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO FACE UP TO THE NEED FOR MAJORITY ROLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA BUT ONLY NOW HAD HMG ACCEPTED THE GRAVITY AND URGENCY OF THE PROBLEM. AFRICANS COULD NOT BE FAULTED FOR SEEKING AID FROM THE EAST, HE SAID, AS LONG AS WEST REFUSED TO HELP. STEELE ACCUSED WESTERN GOVERNMENTS OF SEEKING PROFITS IN SOUTH AFRICA WITHOUT REGARD TO MORAL CONCERNS. HE CALLED ON HMG TO IMPOSE A MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO, FREEZE FURTHER INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA AND "REVIEW USE OF ITS VETO IN THE UN."

6. LONDON-BASED ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT REP (ABDUL MINTY) PRESENTED DETAILED ALLEGATIONS THAT WEO'S HAD SHIPPED LARGE QUANTITIES OF ARMS TO SOUTH AFRICA. APPEARING MORE CREDIBLE TO DELEGATES THAN SEAN MCBRIDE (REF E), MINTY CHARGED, INTER ALIA, THAT:
-- SOUTH AFRICANS HAD USED FRENCH AIRCRAFT AGAINST GUERILLAS IN ANGOLA AND NAMIBIA;
-- FRENCH ARMS WERE NOW BEING MADE UNDER LICENSE IN SOUTH AFRICA;
-- SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE INVENTORY INCLUDED OVER 200 AIRCRAFT OF ITALIAN ORIGIN;
-- ROLLS ROYCE ENGINES WERE REACHING SOUTH AFRICA THROUGH SUB-LICENSE IN ITALY;

-- GERMANY HAD SUPPLIED A MARITIME COMMAND AND CENTRAL SYSTEM;
-- ISRAEL HAD SOLD PATROL BOATS ARMED WITH GABRIEL MISSILES.
AT CONCLUSION OF HIS REMARKS, MINTY GOT BIGGEST HAND OF THE DAY.

7. COMMENT: THE CONFERENCE CONTINUED TO HAMMER ON ITS CENTRAL
THEME -- THAT ECONOMIC, MILITARY AND POLITICAL SUPPORT BY WEST
FOR SOUTH AFRICA WERE EFFECTIVE PROPS FOR APARTHEID AND SHOULD BE
STOPPED. THE GREAT MAJORITY OF SPEAKERS EITHER URGED ARMED STRUGGLE
OR RELUCTANTLY ENDORSED ITS USE. EC-9 GENERALLY TOOK MORE OF
A PASTING THAN US FOR LINKS TO SOUTH AFRICA. WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS,
TONE OF SPEECHES WAS MODERATE. THERE CONTINUED TO BE, HOWEVER
WIDESPREAD SKEPTICISM OF WESTERN EXPRESSIONS OF INNOCENCE AND
GOOD FAITH. ANY SPEAKER, WHO, LIKE MINTY, AT LEAST APPEARED TO
DELEGATES AS HAVING SOME HARD PROOF OF WESTERN SINNING, DREW
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 LAGOS 09811 261904Z

A FAVORABLE RESPONSE.
EASUM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: APARTHEID, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAGOS09811
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770309-0858
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770819/aaaaapus.tel
Line Count: 138
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 81df5b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LAGOS 9695, 77 LAGOS 9619, 77 LAGOS 9620
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1471238
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LAGOS CONFERENCE: AUGUST 25 PLENARY SESSION
TAGS: PORG, SF, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/81df5b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009